

subscribers in Cannanore and Kasargod Districts of Kerala respectively.

(b) So far 535 EPF subscribers of Cannanore and 33 of Kasargode district have received pension under the EPF & MP Act, 1952.

(c) and (d) The pension applications complete in all respects are processed and disposed of promptly. However, some times difficulties arise in speedy disposal when applications are in-complete or are not properly filled by the beneficiaries. In order to remove the difficulties of the subscribers explanatory meetings, seminars and workshops were organised in the area to educate the members to prepare the application forms correctly. Pension Adalats have also been conducted to correct the objections/anomalies in the pension applications on the spot.

Pending Reply

6212. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4416 dated September 4, 1996 and state :

- (a) whether the requisite information has since been collected.
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (c) The complete details are still awaited from the State Government. The Government of J&K are being reminded regularly.

RBI Instructions Regarding Loan Interest

6213. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the Reserve Bank of India has issued directions not to take loan at the interest of high rate, the payment of which financial policies are likely to be affected; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the instructions of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regarding rate of interest of loans to be charged by banks. RBI have reported that scheduled commercial banks are free to determine their own lending rate on their advances with credit limits of over Rs. 2 lakh. Banks are required to declare a prime lending rate (PLR) which will be the

minimum rate charged by the banks for credit limit of over Rs. 2 lakh. Banks are also required to announce the maximum spread over the PLR for all advances other than consumer credit. Reserve Bank of India have in February 1997 clarified to the banks that they are allowed to prescribe PLRs and spread over PLRs separately for loan component and cash credit component with approval of their respective boards.

[Translation]

Development of Cities

6214. PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the cities developed in Rajasthan during the past five years;
- (b) the schemes proposed to be undertaken for the development of various cities of the State this year and funds earmarked for the purpose;
- (c) whether the Rajasthan Government have submitted some proposals in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the decision being taken in this regard;
- (e) whether the World bank is providing any financial assistance in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the project-wise quantum of assistance being provided in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) to (d) Projects for integrated development of infrastructure in selected towns/cities having population upto 5 lakhs are supported under the Centrally sponsored Scheme of Integrated Development of Small & Medium Towns (IDSMT). During the past 5 years, 19 towns/cities in Rajasthan (mentioned in the attached statement) were covered under IDSMT and Central assistance amounting to Rs. 504.50 lakhs released to the State Government. Till December, 1996, the State Government have reported a total expenditure of Rs. 280.04 lakhs on implementing the approved projects in these towns. For 1997-98, funds have not been earmarked Statewise and the coverage of new projects under IDSMT during the current financial year will be considered after meeting the requirement for projects already covered under the Revised Scheme. During 1997-98, no project proposals under IDSMT have been received from Government of Rajasthan.

- (e) No Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.

Statement**Towns/Cities in Rajasthan Covered Under the IDSMT Scheme During the Past Five Years**

S.No.	Name of Town	S.No.	Name of Town
1.	Nimbahera	2.	Rajsamand
3.	Jhunjhunu	4.	Ratangarh
5.	Deoli	6.	Vijai Nagar
7.	Chaksu	8.	Deogarh
9.	Fatehnagar	10.	Sardarshahar
11.	Bundi	12.	Deawar
13.	Nokha	14.	Pratap Garh
15.	Shahpura	16.	Kapanan
17.	Jaisalmer	18.	Udaipur
19.	Bikaner.		

[English]**Setting up of Power Project at Udaipur**

6215. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the State Government of Rajasthan has requested the Hindustan Copper Ltd. to set up a power plant at Udaipur;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the decision taken by the Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Priority Allotment

6216. SHRI JANG BAHDUR SINGH PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the DDA has made priority allotments to many persons in the past ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the names of the persons to whom priority allotments have been made, the precise ground of making such allotments and the areas in which the allotments have been made indicating the type of flats allotted to them between January, 1994 to March 31, 1997, year-wise;
- (c) by whom these allotments were made;
- (d) the number of requests rejected in the same period including the reasons for rejecting those applications; and
- (e) the manner in which the rejected applications were different from those accepted for allotment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir. DDA has reported that priority allotment Out-of-turn (O.T.) Allotment are made according to the policy guidelines of Govt. of India.

(b) Lists containing the names and the grounds for Out of Turn Allotment made under the category of MIG/LIG/Janta and SFS will be laid on the Table of the Sabha. Year-wise details are as under :-

Year of allotment	No. of allotments made
1994	54
1995	19
1996	01
1997 (upto 31.3.97)	183
Total	257

(c) These allotments have been made by the Empowered Committee under the Chairmanship of Minister of Urban Affairs & Employment.

(d) About 1,000 requests for out of turn allotment were rejected during the period as the same are either not approved by the Empowered Committee or were not covered as per the guidelines for O.T. Allotment.

(e) There is a provision for making O.T. Allotment to handicapped persons, war-widows and other persons on compassionate grounds. Guidelines also provide for O.T. Allotment of flats as a measure of reward to eminent sports persons, artists, scientists, scholars of Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic etc. Based on these guidelines, cases for O.T. Allotment are approved by the Empowered Committee and the rest rejected.

Expert Group Report on RRB

6217. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any expert group was set up on the Regional Rural Banks to examine various aspects of regional rural banks; and
- (b) if so, the recommendations made by the expert group and also those which has been implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) An Expert Group under the Chairmanship of Dr. N.K. Thingalaya, Chairman & Managing Director, Syndicate Bank has been constituted by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to advise them, on an ongoing basis, on policy issues covering managerial and financial restructuring issues of Regional Rural Banks (RRBs).